

Press Release

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Immediate release

GUIDES TO HELP PEOPLE RUNNING PENSION SCHEMES PUBLISHED

Two new guides to improve the operation of pension schemes are published today by the NAPF at its Annual Conference.

'Indices and Benchmarks' and 'Custody' are the latest titles in the Made Simple series of guides. They provide easy-to-understand introductions to the two subjects for trustees, pension scheme managers and others involved in running a pension scheme.

'Indices and Benchmarks Made Simple', written with the FTSE Group, explains the main features of each term, why indices and benchmarking are used, how they are both constructed and the different types that are available.

'Custody Made Simple', written with Northern Trust, looks at the key questions a pension scheme manager should ask of their custodians. It also examines risk, performance and how to manage the relationship between custodians and schemes.

Nigel People, NAPF Director of Policy said:

"These news guides will help trustees get to grips with these two complex areas. Our Made Simple guides are one way in which the NAPF seeks to improve pension standards."

Commenting on behalf of Northern Trust, Penelope Biggs, head of the Retirement Solutions Practice, said:

“Northern Trust is committed to helping pension funds navigate the evolving retirement market by giving them access to expertise and information to help their decision-making.

“Working on this guide with the NAPF is one of the many ways in which we are delivering against our commitments. We are delighted to continue our longstanding relationship with the NAPF and to be involved in producing an update to the original Custody Made Simple Guide which Northern Trust contributed to in conjunction with the NAPF, in 2003.”

David Hobbs, Director of FTSE Group said:

“Indices play a major role within the investment decision-making process for most pension funds because they form the building blocks used in portfolio construction. It is vital that trustees set appropriate benchmarks for their fund managers, which requires a close understanding of the characteristics of different indices and how they fit together.

“As a leading index provider, FTSE is delighted to collaborate on the production of this informative guide to assist UK pension fund trustees in setting the framework to best meet their objectives.”

The Made Simple guides (hard copy) cost £18 for NAPF members and £35 for non-members and can be ordered online at <http://www.napf.co.uk/Publications/index.cfm>.

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About The National Association of Pension Funds

The NAPF is the leading voice of workplace pensions in the UK. We speak for 1,200 pension schemes with some 15 million members and assets of around

£800 billion. NAPF members also include over 400 businesses providing essential services to the pensions sector.

Journalists requiring further information, please contact:

Mark Brooks 020 7601 1717 mark.brooks@napf.co.uk 07917 506683

Ruth Wharram 020 7601 1718 ruth.wharram@napf.co.uk 07825 171446